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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,903	11/27/2002	Hao-Hsing Lin	ALIP0012USA	5304
27765	7590	04/08/2005		
NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE (NAIPC)				EXAMINER
P.O. BOX 506				DOAN, DUYEN MY
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116				ART UNIT
				PAPER NUMBER
				2143

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/065,903	LIN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Duyen M Doan	2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2002.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 December 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Detail Action

Claims 1-16 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 8, 9-12, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hannah (us pat 5784581) in view of Shires (us pat 5167028).

As regarding claims 1, 9 Hannah discloses a non-volatile memory for storing data in the portable storage device (col.5, lines 60-63, Fig.4, Fig.6); a first slave port for connecting the portable storage device to the first slave computer through the serial bus interface (col.5, lines 31-52, Fig.4, Fig.6); and a master port for connecting the portable storage device to the master computer through the serial bus interface (col.5, lines 31-52, Fig.4, Fig.6). Hannah does not expressly disclose the master computer is capable of accessing data located on the portable storage device and storage apparatuses of the first slave computer and the first slave computer is not capable of accessing any data located on the portable storage device and the master computer. Shires teaches the master computer is capable of accessing data located on the portable storage device and storage apparatuses of the first slave computer (col.1, lines 23-26) and the

first slave computer is not capable of accessing any data located on the portable storage device and the master computer (col.1, lines 32-34).

It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Shires with the device of Hannah to have the storage connect between the master and the slave, the master can access the slave, but the slave cannot access the master. The slave can performing task requested from the master computer and for the purpose of data security.

As regarding claims 2, 10 Hannah discloses a second slave port for connecting the portable storage device to a second slave computer through the serial bus interface (col.6, lines 4-5, connect to one or more slave devices). Hannah does not expressly disclose the master computer is capable of accessing data located on the second slave computer and the second slave computer is not capable of accessing any data located on the portable storage device, the first slave computer, and the master computer. Shires teaches the master computer is capable of accessing data located on the second slave computer and the second slave computer is not capable of accessing any data located on the portable storage device, the first slave computer, and the master computer (col.1, lines 32-34).

It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Shires with the device of Hannah to have the storage connect between the master and the slave, the master can access the slave, but the slave cannot access the master for the purpose of the slave can performing task requested from the master computer and for the purpose of data security.

As regarding claims 3, 11 the limitations are similar to claim 2, therefore rejected for the same rationale as claim 2.

As regarding claims 4, 12 Hannah discloses the serial bus interface is a universal serial bus (USB) interface (col.1, lines 61-62).

As regarding claims 8, 16 Hannah discloses the non-volatile memory is a flash memory (col.5, lines 60-62).

Claims 5, 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hannah (us pat 5784581) and Shires (us pat 5167028) as applied to claim 1,9 above, and further in view of Smith et al us pat 6633933 (hereinafter Smith).

Hannah-Shires disclose all the limitation of claim 1 above but do not disclose the portable storage device of claim 4 being compatible with the USB Mass Storage Class Bulk-Only Transport specification. Smith teaches USB Mass Storage Class Bulk-only Transport specification (col.15, lines 11-15).

It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Smith with the system of Hannah-Shires to have the portable storage compatible with USB Mass Storage Class Bulk-only Transport specification for the purpose of USB transactions (see Smith col.15 lines 11-12).

Claims 6,14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hannah (us pat 5784581) and Shires (us pat 5167028) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Knight et al (US 2003/0163587) (hereinafter Knight).

Hannah-Shires disclose all the limitation of claim 1 above but do not disclose The portable storage device of claim 4 being compatible with the USB On-The-Go specification. Knight teaches the USB On-the-Go (page.2 paragraph 13).

It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Knight with the system of Hannah-Shires to have the portable storage compatible with USB On-the-Go for the purpose of offering on the go capability (see Kinght page.2, paragraph 14).

Claims 7, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hannah (us pat 5784581) and Shires (us pat 5167028) as applied to claim 1,9 above, and further in view of Deng et al (us pat 6829672) (hereinafter Deng).

Hannah-Shires disclose all the limitation of claim 1 above but do not disclose the serial bus interface is an IEEE 1394 interface. Deng teaches IEEE 1394 interface (see Deng col.6, lines 40-47).

It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teaching of Deng with the system of Hannah-Shires to have serial bus interface is an IEEE 1394 interface for the purpose of data exchange between the host machine and the external storage device (see Deng col.6, lines 45-47).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner
Duyen Doan
Art unit 2143

OD

William C. Vaughn
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2143
William C. Vaughn, Jr.

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Examiner
Duyen Doan
Art unit 2143